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SOURCE

al-Manar al-Jadid Torgan of Islamic Socialist Front - Moslem Brotherhood7.

DESCRIBES TURKESTANI MOSLEMS' STRUGGLE AGAINST COMMUNISTS

Prince Muhammad Imin Bughra, formerly vice-chairman of the Sinkiang Provincial Government, has written [not further elaborated] about the Soviet punitive expedition to Eastern Turkestan (Sinkiang), on the basis of details related by a Moslem officer named Ma who fled recently from Eastern Turkestan to Hong Kon. According to Bughra, Ma stated that the Soviet Fifth Division, which is composed of 35,000 soldiers (a few of whom are natives of Western Turkestan) is presently occupying the southern provinces of Eastern Turkestan, ostensibly as the local army of these provinces, while as a matter of fact it receives its orders and provisions directly from Moscow, like any other Soviet division.

Prince Bughra further stated that according to authenticated reports he had received from Eastern Turkestan, the forces of Yolbas Bey, a Turkestani guerrilla leader, had been defeated by Soviet forces and compelled to withdraw to the southern mountains of Turkestan, and that Yolbas Bey and the remnants of his forces, finding themselves unable to resume the fighting, escaped across the Tibetan border and arrived in Lhasa on 30 January 1951. From there, they later went to India, where they were granted permission to remain as refugees.

Prince Bughra also reported that on 4 February the Communist authorities sentenced to death and executed on the same day Janim Khan, former Finance Minister of Turkestan and a leading Caucasian [sic] tribal leader, voted for his hostility to Communism. Janim Khan had organized a group of nationalists and had fought the Communists in the Barkol mountains from September 1949 until July of last year, when he was captured by Soviet forces.

Boghara also stated that thousands of young men and women of Eastern Turkestan were forced to join the "Volunteers' Division" to fight in Korea; that native Turkestanis were compelled to donate the equivalent of 300,000 dollars to the "Relief Fund for Communist Forces Fighting in Korea"; and that last year the Soviet authorities tried over 36,000 Eastern Turkestanis, of whom approximately 800 were acquitted, seven executed, and [over] 35,000 received jail sentences ranging between one year and life.

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